



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
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HIGAKI et al.) **Art Unit 2186**
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Application Number: 10/768,439)
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Filed: February 2, 2004)
)
For: STORAGE SYSTEM AND)
STORAGE CONTROL DEVICE)
)
Attorney Docket No. HITA.0508)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend this application as outlined hereinbelow: